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File: USPT

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DOCUMENT-IDENTIFIER: US 6464697 B1

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TITLE: Stomach and adjoining tissue regions in the esophagus

Detailed Description Text (4):

Still, it should be appreciated that the disclosed systems and methods are applicable for use in treating other dysfunctions elsewhere in the body, which are not necessarily sphincter-related. For example, the various aspects of the invention have application in procedures requiring treatment of hemorrhoids, or incontinence, or restoring compliance to or otherwise tightening interior tissue or muscle regions. The systems and methods that embody features of the invention are also adaptable for use with systems and surgical techniques that are not necessarily catheter-based.

Detailed Description Text (133):

As another example, the failure of a ring of muscle, e.g., the anal sphincter or the lower esophageal sphincter 18, called achalasia, can also be treated using an electrode 66 having an interior lumen 136, carried by an operative device previously described. In this arrangement, the electrode 66 is deployed and extended into the dysfunctional sphincter muscle. A selected exotoxin, e.g., serotype A of the Botulinum toxin, can be injected through the electrode lumen 136 to produce a flaccid paralysis of the dysfunctional sphincter muscle.

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